

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LIBREV 01472 061625Z  
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00  
SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /070 W  
-----085595 070208Z /62

R 061550Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE  
TO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1138  
TRAVIS AFB CA 60TH/MAX/DOX/ACF/CBPO  
AMEMBASSY LOME  
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY RABAT  
JCS  
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM  
CINCMAC SCOTT AFB IL  
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GERMANY  
21 AF MCGUIRE AFB NJ/CAT

S E C R E T LIBREVILLE 1472

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MOPS, MASS, CG, GB  
SUBJ: SHABA AFRICAN FORCE

REF: (A) LIBREVILLE 1338 DTG 051050Z JUN 78, (B) USCINCEUR  
040805Z JUN 78, (C) USCINCEUR 041535Z JUN 78,  
(D) USCINCEUR 061130Z JUN 78 (NOTAL)

1. REFERENCE IN REF (A) TO UNANNOUNCED ARRIVALS OF ALCE  
AND C-141S MAY 5 INTENDED MERELY TO STATE FACT. WHILE  
FOR OBVIOUS REASONS WE WOULD HAVE MUCH PREFERRED KNOW IN  
ADVANCE, WE NOT RPT NOT COMPLAINING AND HAVE SORTED OUT  
SECRET

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ALL PROBLEMS INVOLVED WITH THEIR ARRIVAL. FIRST NEWS WE  
HAD OF ARRIVALS WAS TELEPHONE CALL FROM AIRPORT  
FROM ALCE COMMANDER AT APPROX 0330Z MAY 5.

2. FOR CINCEUR'S INFORMATION, YOUR 040805Z  
ARRIVED AT THIS POST AT 050900Z, AND YOUR 041535Z  
ARRIVED AT 050834Z. NEITHER WAS NIACT IMMEDIATE

(OR ZZK IN MILITARY PARLANCE) AND THEREFORE WAS NOT TRANSMITTED UNTIL EMBASSY COMMUNICATIONS OPENED UP AT APPROX 0630Z MORNING OF MAY 5, A POINT YOU MAY WISH TO KEEP IN MIND FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

3. FORTUNATELY, GABONESE WERE MOST COOPERATIVE AND POTENTIAL PROBLEMS OFTEN ATTENDANT ON UNANNOUNCED ARRIVALS WERE RESOLVED FAIRLY QUICKLY. THUS ALCE WAS GIVEN PROMPT PERMISSION TO OPERATE COMMO, GIVEN OFFICE SPACE AT AIRPORT AND PROVIDED WITH ROOM TO STORE HANDLING EQUIPMENT. GABONESE, AFTER MINOR HASSLE, PERMITTED ALCE TEAM, MANY OF WHOM HAD NO PASSPORTS AND NONE OF WHOM HAD VISAS, TO ENTER COUNTRY FOR UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF DAYS. LODGING WAS SECURED QUICKLY. TRAVIS AFB HAS RESOLVED FUNDING PROBLEM. THERE WERE NO PROBLEMS AT ALL WITH CLEARANCES AND REFUELING. GABONESE HAVE NOT INSISTED ON USUAL DETAIL FOR INDIVIDUAL FLIGHT CLEARANCES AND HAVE NOT ASKED US FOR CLEARANCE REQUEST FOR MORE THAN THE TEN FLIGHTS WE ORIGINALLY ASKED FOR.

4. IN SHORT, OPERATION HERE WAS NEVER DELAYED IT SEEMS TO US TO BE GOING SMOOTHLY DESPITE FACT IT CAUGHT US UNAWARE, FOR WHICH IN LARGE MEASURE, WE CAN THANK GABONESE AND PROFESSIONALISM OF ALCE TEAM.

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5. WE HAVE RECEIVED ALL SUBSEQUENT SITREPS PROMPTLY AND SO FAR AS WE KNOW, COLLATERAL TRAFFIC AS WELL.

6. SINCE DRAFTING ABOVE, WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED 21 AF MC GUIRE AFB 061404Z (NOTAL) WHICH MUCH APPRECIATED AND MOST HELPFUL. TIENKEN

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, COMBAT OPERATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978LIBREV01472  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION PM  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 LIBREVILLE 1338  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2478675  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SHABA AFRICAN FORCE  
**TAGS:** MOPS, MASS, CG, GB  
**To:** USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014